

What is claimed is:



- A method for solution-mining of a subterranean material, the method comprising:
 injecting a fluid into an elbow well, the fluid forming a subterranean mixture with the
 subterranean material; and
 collecting the subterranean mixture from the elbow well.
- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the subterranean material comprises trona.
- 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising making the elbow well.
- 4. The method of claim 3, wherein making the elbow well comprises drilling an elbow well into a bed comprising the subterranean material.
- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the method comprises casing the elbow well.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said injecting the fluid further comprises injecting the fluid into an injection tube located in the elbow well.
- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises creating a cavity, wherein the cavity comprises the subterranean material.
- 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the cavity comprises the subterranean material mixture after said injecting the fluid.



- 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the subterranean mixture comprises a subterranean solution.
- 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the fluid comprises water.
- 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the fluid comprises a caustic mixture.
- 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises heating the fluid.
- 13. The method of claim 1, wherein said collecting the subterranean mixture further comprises collecting the subterranean mixture through a production tube located in the elbow well.
- 14. The method of claim 1, wherein said collecting the subterranean mixture comprises pumping the subterranean mixture.
- 15. The method of claim 14, wherein said pumping the subterranean mixture comprises lifting the subterranean mixture through the production tube.
- 16. The method of claim 15, wherein the method further comprises delivering the subterranean maxture to a collection location.
- 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the collection location comprises the earth's surface.



- 18. The method of claim 14, wherein the method further comprises placing a pump in the elbow well.
- 19. The method of claim 1, wherein the method occurs at ambient well pressure.
- 20. The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises processing the subterranean mixture after said collecting the subterranean mixture.

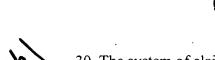


21. A system for solution-mining of a subterranean material, the system comprising.

means for injecting a fluid into an elbow well, the fluid forming a subterranean mixture with the subterranean material; and

means for collecting the subterranean mixture from the elbow well.

- 22. The system of claim 21, wherein the subterranean material comprises trona.
- 23. The system of claim 21, further comprising pleans for making the elbow well.
- 24. The system of claim 23, wherein said means for making the elbow well comprises means for drilling the elbow well into a bed comprising the subterranean material.
- 25. The system of claim 21, wherein the system comprises means for casing the elbow well.
- 26. The system of claim 21, wherein said means for injecting the fluid further comprises an injection tube located in the elbow well.
- 27. The system of claim 21, wherein the subterranean mixture comprises a subterranean solution.
- 20 28. The system of claim 21, wherein the fluid comprises water.
 - 29. The system of claim 21, wherein the fluid comprises a caustic mixture.



- 30. The system of claim 21, wherein the system further comprises means for heating the fluid.
- 31. The system of claim 21, wherein said means for collecting the subterranean mixture comprises means for pumping the subterranean mixture.
- 32. The system of claim 31, wherein the system further comprises means for placing a pump in the elbow well.
- 33. The system of claim 31, wherein the system further comprises means for delivering the subterranean mixture to a collection location.
- 34. The system of claim 33, wherein the collection location comprises the earth's surface.
- 35. The system of claim 21, wherein the system occurs at ambient well pressure.
- 36. The system of claim 21, wherein the system further comprises means for processing the subterranean mixture after said means for collecting the subterranean mixture.





37. An apparatus for solution-mining of a subterranean material, the apparatus comprising.

an injection tube, wherein the injection tube has an injection tube inner diameter of sufficient size to allow for injection of a fluid for mining of a subterranean material; and

- a production casing, wherein the production casing has a production casing inner diameter of sufficient size to allow for production of a subterranean mixture of the fluid and the subterranean material between an outer surface of the injection tube and an inner surface of the production casing.
- 38. The apparates of claim 37, further comprising a production tube for collecting the subterrapean mixture.
- 39. The apparatus of claim 38, further comprising a pump connected to the production tube.